

APRIL 2005

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MOTOR VEHICLE GETS YOU ON YOUR WAY

DO YOU HAVE A BOAT TRAILER THAT requires a license for Minnesota's upcoming fishing opener? Maybe your plans include travel to places a little more exotic? Both recreational vehicle registration and passports are available at the Motor Vehicle Office, 9930 Logan Avenue South. Hours are Monday, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m., and Tuesday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. For more information, call 952-563-8719 or visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Motor.



LIVING GREEN EXPO 2005 MINNESOTA'S LARGEST ENVIRONMENTAL EVENT

MORE THAN 200 EXHIBITORS WILL showcase environmentally sound products, technologies, information and practices at Minnesota's Living Green Expo, **Saturday, April 30** and **Sunday, May 1, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.**, at the Grandstand Building at the Minnesota State Fair Grounds, 1265 Snelling Avenue North, St. Paul. The event features art displays, children's activities, food and music. Admission is free. For information, call 651-215-0218 or visit www.livinggreen.org.

THE GREAT SKATE TOGETHER FIGURE SKATING PERFORMANCE

THE BLOOMINGTON SKATE SCHOOL AND the Figure Skating Club of Bloomington present "The Great Skate Together ... Ice Show on a Stick" on **Saturday, April 30, 7 p.m., and Sunday, May 1, 2 p.m.** at the Bloomington Ice Garden, 3600 West 98th Street. Tickets are \$7 adults; \$5 students/seniors and free for ages 5 and under. Discounted tickets are available during the dress rehearsal on Friday, April 29, 5:30 - 8 p.m. For information, call Rene Gelecinskyj at 952-888-5167.

WILDFLOWERS BLOSSOM, BUTTERFLIES FLUTTER FIRE HELPS MAINTAIN NATURAL BEAUTY



FIRE ALLOWS NATIVE PLANTS AND ANIMAL COMMUNITIES to thrive. Every three to four years, prairie areas around Bloomington and at the Water Treatment Plant, 9300 Poplar Bridge Road, are burned to help accentuate the growth of native wildflowers, enrich the soil and eliminate weeds.

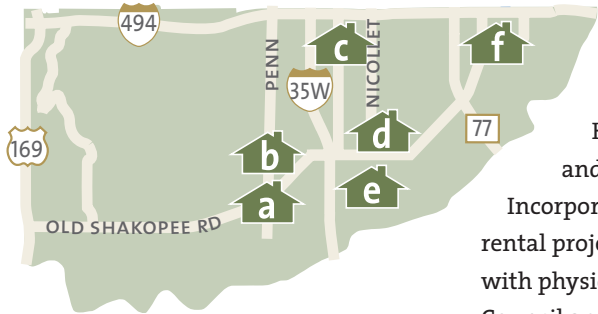
Prairie areas are low maintenance. No pesticides or fertilizers are needed on these areas that sit atop the plant's 4.5 million gallon underground reservoir, ensuring that the city's drinking water stays safe and people driving by can enjoy the natural beauty.

A monarch butterfly pauses on the native wildflowers growing at the Water Treatment Plant.

WHERE YOU LIVE QUALITY HOUSING REMAINS THE TREND

ALTHOUGH FULLY DEVELOPED, BLOOMINGTON HAS A GREAT DEAL OF CONSTRUCTION underway to revitalize the community and provide more housing options. The city has always been recognized for its quality residential environment and that trend is continuing with current redevelopment. These projects demonstrate the high demand for quality housing at all price levels. Many units have sold out or are selling quickly.

For information, call 952-563-8920 or visit the City's Web site, keywords: Development directory.



a PENN AND OLD SHAKOPEE
The Village on 9 Mile Creek will construct 40 townhomes and 128 condominiums on the former City Hall site. The first phase includes a four-story condominium building and 20-unit townhouse development scheduled for completion in fall 2005.

b 99TH AND PENN
A three-story, 132,800-square-foot care center and town center addition to Presbyterian Homes' Gideon Pond campus will add 80 licensed nursing units and 36 assisted living units. Completion is scheduled for fall 2005.



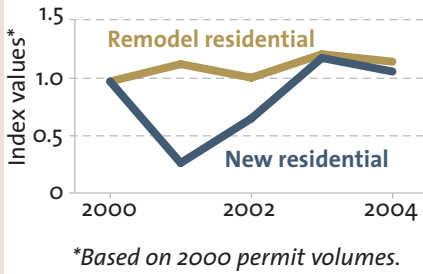
c 84TH AND LYNDALE
Lyndale Green, pictured above, will be substantially completed in 2006, with a 10,500-square-foot retail center, the 95-unit Applewood Pointe Senior Cooperative, 46 townhouses and a one-acre public park. A new Cub Foods store opened on the site last November.

d 95TH AND GARFIELD
The National Handicap Housing Institute and Accessible Space

Incorporated are proposing a 50-unit rental project for low-income seniors with physical disabilities. Pending City Council approval, construction could begin in fall 2005.

e 102ND AND NICOLLET
Seven single-family, affordable homes are being constructed in an underutilized area. The project is scheduled for completion this spring. *See page 8.*

f BLOOMINGTON CENTRAL STATION
The first phase of McGough's transit-oriented development, "Reflections," includes 267 condominiums scheduled for completion in summer 2006. More than 800 additional residential units are proposed in later phases.



REDEVELOPMENT HELPS NEW RESIDENTIAL BUILDING BOUNCE BACK

The graph shows year-to-year investment in residential construction by an index based on 2000 activity. Residential remodeling has been constant, while new construction dipped in 2001 and 2002, but has bounced back. New residential construction is about two-to-three times the total value of residential remodels, or about \$8 million per year.

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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS FOR A SAFER, STRONGER COMMUNITY

By Mayor Gene Winstead

EMERGENCIES CAN HAPPEN ANYTIME, anywhere and without warning. Local public safety officials, including Police, Fire, Emergency Medical, Public Health and Public Works, have always maintained an emergency response plan in the event of a disaster.

A look at the history of emergencies in our community shows high winds, tornadoes, floods and hazardous chemical spills as the most likely risks. But after the terrorist attacks of September 11, federal and local governments developed and implemented action plans for a different type of disaster. The City continues to improve its response to all emergencies by increasing communications, training staff and strengthening partnerships.

Effective communications is critical to emergency response. The lack of communications between New York police and fire personnel at the World Trade Center disaster was a tragic lesson. In fall 2005, the City of Bloomington will roll out an enhanced radio system that will allow shared communications between all metropolitan cities and agencies in the event of an emergency. Much of the funding for the radio system and other programs, training and equipment is from federal agencies including Homeland Security and the Centers for Disease Control. The Bloomington Fire Department was one of 15 cities in the state to receive a decontamination trailer to use in the event of a chemical incident.

The Fire Department has been very active in Homeland Security initiatives. In response to terrorism, firefighters have undergone extensive training that included exercises to better respond to a

potential airport or light-rail tunnel emergency. They have also executed an automatic, mutual-aid emergency response with neighboring cities.

Through training and an enhanced communications network, Public Health has expanded and strengthened its ability to detect and respond to infectious disease outbreaks and potential bioterrorism incidents. They have joined forces with other state and local public health agencies, law enforcement and community partners to enhance the Health Alert Network's round-the-clock fax and e-mail information exchange, offer a monthly public health advisory television series in six different languages, and recruit trained volunteers who could assist in the event of a public health crisis or natural disaster.

"Emergency preparedness is about building relationships," said Public Health Administrator Karen Zeleznak. "We've always worked closely with other agencies, but we are expanding our partnerships to help us better respond to emergencies."

Police Commander James Ryan said Bloomington Police and Fire are working with the community to conduct drills and scenarios to make sure people know what to do in an emergency.

"We continue to partner with businesses and schools to make sure they are well-prepared," said Commander Ryan. "And we are committed to ensuring the safety of our citizens."

Residents ask me as Mayor what they can do to prepare for an emergency. Get to know your neighbors, their kids and pets, and find out what kind of help

they might need in a disaster. I encourage everyone to become involved with their Neighborhood Watch program. The more you know the better prepared you and your family will be.

For information, visit the City's Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Emergency or Public Health.

RESOURCES

The following is a list of resources to help keep you informed and prepared for an emergency.

Neighborhood Watch -

Bloomington Police and residents working together for a safer community. Call Proactive Police Services Unit at 952-563-8808.

Emergency and Community Health Outreach (ECHO) - A public television program broadcasting emergency and health information in six languages. Visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: ECHO, or call 952-563-8995.

Medical Reserve Corps of Hennepin County - Recruiting trained health volunteers in the event of an emergency. Visit www.mrc-hennepin.org or call 952-351-5234.

Minnesota Department of Health - For information on preparedness and response for health emergencies, visit www.health.state.mn.us.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security - Learn more about citizen preparedness at www.ready.gov.

BRIEFING

Volume 13, Number 2

The *Briefing*, published bimonthly by the City of Bloomington, is mailed to our residents and businesses. Direct comments and requests for Braille, larger print or computer disk to Communications Administrator Diann Kirby, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Rd., Bloomington MN 55431-3027; PH 952-563-8818; TTY 952-563-8740; FAX 952-563-8715; E-MAIL dkirby@ci.bloomington.mn.us.
Web site: www.ci.bloomington.mn.us

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Elected officials presented for informational purposes.

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The City of Bloomington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status or status with regard to public assistance in employment or the provision of services. The City of Bloomington does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all City of Bloomington services, programs and activities. The City has designated coordinators to facilitate compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), as required by Section 35.107 of the U.S. Department of Justice Regulations, and to coordinate compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as mandated by Section 8.53 of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Regulations. For information, contact the Human Services Division, City of Bloomington, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3027; phone: 952-563-8700; TTY: 952-563-8740.

A HEALTHY BLOOMINGTON

BLOOMINGTON WORKPLACES NOW SMOKE FREE ORDINANCE EFFECTIVE MARCH 31

ALL BLOOMINGTON WORKPLACES ARE now smoke free. Phase two of the smoking ban took effect on March 31 and includes establishments with on-sale liquor, wine or 3.2 beer licenses or permits, or charitable gambling licenses or permits. The ordinance prohibits smoking in indoor public places and workplaces and within 25 feet of entrances, exits, open windows and ventilation intakes to public places and

workplaces. It also requires that at least one-half of the seating capacity of outdoor restaurant patios be designated as non-smoking areas.

Smoking in private residences, motor vehicles, designated hotel-motel sleeping rooms, and during Indian spiritual rituals or cultural ceremonies is allowed under state law and is not affected by the City's ordinance.



This sign and others may be downloaded at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Smoke free sign.

For more information, visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Health home, or call 952-563-8934.

PAVING THE WAY FOR IMPROVED ROADWAYS
2005 STREET CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

WINTER IS WINDING DOWN AND THE CITY IS PREPARING FOR THE SECOND OF MINNESOTA’S seasons: road construction. These projects are paving the way for safer, more efficient and less-congested roadways in Bloomington. For more information, call Engineering at 952-563-4870. For a complete listing of street projects, visit the City’s Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Bloomington street.



AMERICAN BOULEVARD

American Boulevard between Dupont and Nicollet avenues will be widened and reconstructed beginning this summer through 2006. The road design will feature terra cotta concrete behind the curb and center medians with trees and shrubs.

LYLE BERG BRIDGE OVER I-35W

The Lyle Berg Bridge over I-35W along American Boulevard began construction last fall and will continue this year. The opening is planned for fall 2005.



AIRPORT SOUTH

Airport South continues to develop and change with the next phase of the Mall of America, Bloomington Central Station, the construction of a new airport runway and the opening of light-rail transit. Further roadway enhancements are scheduled for mid-summer, including median modifications along American Boulevard and an additional right-turn lane at American Boulevard and 24th Avenue.



CITY RECEIVES
ENGINEERING AWARD
PUBLIC WORKS RECOGNIZED FOR
STREET IMPROVEMENTS

THE CITY’S ENGINEERING DIVISION, along with consultant URS Corporation, received the 2005 Honor Award from the American Consulting Engineers Council for planning, designing and constructing infrastructure improvements associated with the ongoing development of the Mall of America’s second phase. The improvements included American Boulevard reconstruction and realignment, sanitary sewer extension, IKEA site development and Lindau Lane reconstruction.

CLEANING UP
AFTER WINTER
STREET SWEEPING BEGINS

AROUND THE FIRST WEEK OF APRIL, Street Maintenance launches its annual spring-cleaning campaign to rid city streets of debris, dirt and sand left over from a winter of ice control. A clean sweep of all Bloomington streets takes about six to eight weeks. To protect the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District from pollutants, streets in that area are swept first. Crews work two weekday shifts, beginning at 4 a.m. and ending at 8 p.m., and then move into other neighborhoods. Sweeping starting points are rotated each year. Sand and debris collected by street-sweeping crews are sent through a screener/shredder for sorting and cleaning. Cleaned sand is later reused for ice control on streets. Remember to keep a safe distance from street-cleaning equipment in operation. For more information, call 952-563-8760.



RESIDENTIAL STREETS

Public Works relies on the Pavement Management Program to identify, inventory and track street condition. Under the program, selected streets receive an overlay (resurfacing of the top-wearing surface of the pavement) or a full reconstruction (complete rebuilding of the pavement structure). To best utilize maintenance dollars, staff regularly updates the condition of each street in a computer database. This ensures the appropriate maintenance at the appropriate time. Current street projects have been approved by the City Council. For a list of projects, visit the City’s Web site www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Street construction.

AIRPORT EXPANSION
PLANS TO INCREASE CAPACITY AT MSP AND ITS TERMINALS



For more information, call MAC’s Noise Complaint and Information Line at 612-726-9411 or visit www.macnoise.com.



The new runway is being constructed parallel to TH77 (Cedar Avenue) between TH62 and I-494. Increasing the airport’s total capacity by about 25 percent, the new runway will handle approximately 37 percent of take-offs and 17 percent of landings.

CHANGES ARE ON BOARD AT THE Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP) to meet increasing travel from the sixth busiest airport in the nation. Many airports around the country experienced sharp drops in use since September 2001, but MSP’s usage is taking off. Passenger growth is expected to increase from 33 million in 2003 to 55 million in 2020. Some improvements that increase the airport’s capacity to handle more flights are nearing completion. One of the most significant improvements is

the construction of a new north/south runway that will add 25 percent more operational capacity, helping to reduce congestion and delays at the airport. The runway is scheduled to open in October. When the runway is being used, increased aircraft noise will impact residents in Bloomington who currently experience little or no aircraft noise. This includes residents east of TH77 near the runway’s centerline and residents along the south side of Bloomington where departing aircraft turn toward destinations to the west.

The City Council and the City of Bloomington have successfully ensured that the homes most affected by noise will be acquired and operational measures will be implemented to reduce noise impacts on residents. The Council and the City continue to advocate for insulation of homes in the 60 to 64 dB noise contours. The Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) is currently reviewing Northwest Airline’s 15-year plan to meet the airport’s future aviation growth demands. The \$721 million 2020 Vision Plan proposes an additional 46 new gates by expanding the Humphrey Terminal, adding new gates at Lindbergh, and relocating some airlines from the Lindbergh to the Humphrey Terminal. MAC says the plan will position MSP to meet future growth demands and continue the airport’s strong position among large U.S. airports.



SWEEPING TECHNOLOGY

As Maintenance crews sweep city streets this spring, residents can check their progress on the City’s Web site. To view the street-sweeping schedule by using an interactive map of Bloomington, visit ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: My World.

CONTACT PARKS AND RECREATION AT 952-563-8877 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS.

GIDEON POND HOUSE

ATTEND THE FOLLOWING EVENTS AT Pond-Dakota Mission Park, 401 E. 104th St. Free historic Pond House tours and guided hiking tours will be available at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.

Native and contemporary lacrosse demonstrations

Learn how to play lacrosse, America’s original pasttime played by the Dakotas. See how the game is played today by local high school and college athletes.

Date: Sunday, May 1.
Time: 1:30 - 4 p.m.

Why the Dakota Indians Converted to Christianity

Nine of John LaBatte's ancestors were involved in the Dakota War of 1862. LaBatte will speak about why many Dakotas converted to Christianity and became active leaders in their various denominations.

Date: May 15.
Time: 2 - 3:30 p.m.

CELEBRATE ARBOR DAY PURCHASE AND PLANT A TREE

HACKBERRY AND RED MAPLE TREES – two and one half inches in diameter – are for sale this spring. Cost is \$50 each. To purchase a tree, call 952-563-8751 or download a form from the City’s Web site, www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Tree sale.

MINNESOTA RIVER VALLEY IMPROVEMENTS CREATING A SAFER, MORE STABLE TRAIL



WORK BEGAN LAST FALL TO IMPROVE the Minnesota River Valley hiking and biking trail between Parker’s Picnic Grounds, 10401 Columbus Rd., and Mound Springs Park, 10201 11th Ave. S. Steeper sections of the existing trail were relocated to create a safer trail and to control erosion that will help stabilize the river valley bluff, reduce trail maintenance costs and improve water quality in Long Meadow Lake. The City developed plans for the improvement project after consulting with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. The Minnesota Off-Road Cyclists organization is undertaking trail improvements that include stabilizing the existing trail bed, removing brush to improve sight lines, adding mile-marker signs and installing bridge sections over the wetlands and springs. Work is scheduled for completion this spring.

YOUTH SPORTS GET ACTIVE THIS SUMMER

SWIMMING



BUSH LAKE BEACH

9140 E. Bush Lake Road

ENJOY A DAY AT THE BEACH! CAN YOU THINK OF ANYTHING BETTER TO DO ON A HOT summer day? A daily pass or seasonal parking permit is required for entrance to Bush Lake.

When: June 11 - August 22.
Time: Noon - 8 p.m.

New parking permits

New parking permits for Bush Lake Beach will be available for purchase beginning Saturday, April 16. Cost for parking at Bush Lake is \$4 daily or \$25 annually (June through August).* For more information, call Parks and Recreation.

**Pending City Council approval.*



When:	June 11 - August 21.		
Time:	Noon - 8 p.m.		
Cost:	<i>Age</i>	<i>Daily admission</i>	<i>After 5 p.m.</i>
	Under 1 year	Free	Free
	1 - 5 years	\$4.50	\$3.50
	6 - 54 years	\$6.50	\$4.50
	55+ years	\$4.50	\$3.50

Season passes

Family (2 people)	
Resident:	\$70 + \$10 each additional member + tax.
Non-resident:	\$125 + \$10 each additional member + tax.
Individual	
Resident:	\$35 + tax.
Non-resident:	\$60 + tax.

Purchase your season passes here:
Super Sign-up on April 16.
Parks and Recreation office beginning April 25.
Aquatic Center on June 10.

BLOOMINGTON FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER

301 E. 90th Street

ENJOY ANOTHER SEASON OF FAMILY FUN AT the Bloomington Family Aquatic Center. Amenities include a zero-depth entry pool, interactive play features, waterslides, diving boards, sand volleyball, bathhouse and concession stand.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, April 16
Super Sign-up Saturday
Registration for all summer programs will be held at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, 9 - 11 a.m.

Wednesday, April 20
Summer program registration continues at Parks and Recreation in Bloomington Civic Plaza.

Friday, June 10
Bloomington Family Aquatic Center and Bush Lake Beach open.

Monday, June 13
Summer Spectrum classes, Summer Playground program, Tiny Tots program and Arts in the Parks series begin.



ADAPTIVE RECREATION AND LEARNING Exchange Cooperative (AR&LE) offers opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in recreation, leisure and community education programs in the four cities of Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Edina and Richfield.

ADAPTIVE YOUTH SOFTBALL

THIS PROGRAM TEACHES BASIC RULES and good sportsmanship in a non-threatening environment. Siblings and parents are invited to volunteer.

Who: Boys and girls with disabilities, ages 10 - 18.
When: Monday, June 13 - August 1, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Where: Tarnhill Park Field #2, 9650 Little Rd.
Cost: \$45 resident; \$50 non-resident. Includes team shirt.
Register: Call Parks and Recreation.

ADAPTIVE ADULT CO-RECREATIONAL SOFTBALL LEAGUE

PLAYERS NEED TO BE ABLE TO FOLLOW simple directions and maintain a high interest in softball. Softball experience is not necessary.

Who: Adults, 19 and older.
When: Tuesdays, June 14 - August 2, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Where: Tarnhill Park, Field #2, 9650 Little Rd.
Cost: \$45 resident; \$50 non-resident. Includes team shirt.
Register: Call Parks and Recreation.

SUMMER SPECTRUM AN ARRAY OF ACTIVITIES

SPANNING EIGHT WEEKS, SUMMER SPECTRUM CLASSES WILL FOCUS ON YOUTH entering grades K through 9. Classes and camps will be held at Oak Grove Elementary, 1300 W. 104th St., with limited bus transportation available.

The catalog, mailed to the parents of school age children in Bloomington public schools, is also on our Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Spectrum. For more information, call Parks and Recreation.

Summer Spectrum is a program of Bloomington Public Schools’ Community Education, the City of Bloomington’s Parks and Recreation Division and the Bloomington Art Center.



CENTER FOR THE ARTS

LOCATED IN BLOOMINGTON CIVIC PLAZA AT THE CORNER OF WEST 98TH STREET AND Old Shakopee Road, the Center for the Arts is a first-class facility housing eight arts organizations. For facility rental information, call 952-563-8881.

EXHIBITIONS

BLOOMINGTON ART CENTER (BAC)
952-563-8587

INEZ GREENBERG GALLERY
Running **April 8 - May 20, Extra-ordinary** features artists Kristie Bretzke and Lester Hoikka. The opening reception will be Friday, April 8, 6 - 8 p.m.
BAC's Literacy Council presents **Open Mike Poetry Night, Saturday, April 16, 7:30 p.m.** Cost is a \$3 donation. To participate call BAC.

Members' Juried Exhibition runs **June 3 - July 8.** An opening reception and award ceremony will be held Friday, June 3, 6 - 8 p.m.

BLACK BOX THEATER

GALLERY PLAYERS
FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY IN CENSUS ENUMERATOR
An episode from one of old-time radio's most popular series will be performed **Thursday - Saturday, April 28, 29* and 30, at 7:30 p.m.** Tickets are \$7. *American Sign Language interpreted (ASL).

SCHNEIDER THEATER

CONTINENTAL BALLET COMPANY



SLEEPING BEAUTY
This classic fairy tale uses the original music by Tchaikovsky and is directed by Riet Velthuisen. Performances will be held **Fridays - Saturdays, April 15 - 23, 7:30 p.m., and Sundays, April 17 and 24, 3 p.m.** Tickets are \$17 adults; \$14 seniors/students; \$8 for children under age 13. For tickets, call 952-563-8562.


OTHER VENUES

BLOOMINGTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
The season finale will be performed **Sunday, April 24, 3 p.m.,** at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 9201 Normandale Boulevard, and features Gustav Mahler's Fifth Symphony along with a performance by the Minnesota String and Orchestra Teachers' 2005 concerto competition winner Anna Clearman. For information, call Melitta George at 952-563-8573 or visit www.bloomingtonsymphony.org.

GALLERY HOURS

Monday - Friday	8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday	1 p.m. - 10 p.m.

ATRIUM GALLERY, SECOND FLOOR



Bela Petheo: Themes and Variations, 1956-2004 – A Selection runs through **April 22.** Meet the artist on Friday, April 8, 6 - 8 p.m.
Running **April 28 - June 10, Art is Where You Find It** features artist Dale Peterson. The opening reception will be Thursday, April 28, 6 - 8 p.m.

FOR TICKETS, CALL 952-563-8587 OR VISIT WWW.BLOOMINGTONARTCENTER.COM.

AND THEN THERE WERE NONE
Also known as “Ten Little Indians,” this is one of Agatha Christie’s great whodunits. Performances are **Thursdays - Saturdays, June 9 - 25, 7:30 p.m.** Friday, June 24 is ASL interpreted. Tickets are \$12 adults; \$10 seniors/students/groups.

THURSDAY MUSICAL
The final concert of the 2005 Artist Series, with music by Franz Schubert and Carl Nielsen, will be held **Thursday, April 21, 10:30 a.m.** Tickets are \$10 adults; \$6 students. For information, visit www.thursdaymusical.com or call 612-333-0313.

BLOOMINGTON CIVIC THEATRE
DAMN YANKEES
Performances will be **Thursdays - Sundays, May 5 - 29.** Tickets are \$24 adults; \$21 seniors; \$18 students. For more information, visit www.bloomingtoncivictheatre.org or call 952-563-8575.

NOTE-ABLE SINGERS
Spring Concert will be held on **Thursday, June 2, 7:30 p.m.** Tickets are \$7, available at the door.

ADULT SPORTS

TENNIS

ALL LEVELS OF PLAY, BEGINNERS TO advanced, are offered for women, men, seniors and children. For more information, call Parks and Recreation or visit the City's Web site, keyword: Tennis.



SOFTBALL SENIOR LEAGUE
THE BORN AGAIN JOCKS SOFTBALL League welcomes all men age 55 and older with all levels of playing ability. Games are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:15 a.m. at Valley View, 9000 Portland Ave. S. The season starts Tuesday, May 3. For more information, call Dick Wortman at 952-888-1814, Loran Wendt at 952-831-4759 or e-mail Bob Wandberg at bwandberg@qwest.net.

NEW PROGRAMS

PICKLEBALL LESSONS
LEARN ABOUT ONE OF THE FASTEST-growing sports in retirement communities. Equipment will be provided, limit of 8 per session. Classes are free.
When: Mondays, May 16 and 23; June 6 and 13; July 11 and 18.
Time: 9 a.m. Lesson - Beginners. 10 a.m. Drills - All skill levels.
Where: Hyland Hills Tennis and Pickleball Courts, 9858 Edgewood Rd.
Contact: 952-835-2468.



Pickleball, a singles or doubles game, is a court sport that combines tennis and ping-pong. Each player uses a paddle to attempt to score by hitting a three-inch whiffle-ball across the net.

21ST ANNUAL SHAPEUP CHALLENGE
GET OUT AND GET FIT

THE SHAPEUP CHALLENGE GEARS UP FOR ITS 21ST YEAR of motivating employees to exercise. This friendly competition between Bloomington worksites awards points to employees for doing aerobic activities along with strength training and flexibility. The ShapeUp Challenge runs from **April 25 to June 5.** Trophies are awarded to the companies with the most points per employee. Sponsored by Parks and Recreation, this is a great way to introduce fitness, team spirit and a little fun into your workplace. For more information, contact Diane Moe at 952-563-8892, e-mail dmoe@ci.bloomington.mn.us or visit ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Shapeup. Registration deadline is April 15.



VOLLEYBALL

SUMMER SAND WOMEN'S AND CO-REC LEAGUES
TEAMS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR BRINGING one volleyball.

When: Evenings, June 6 - August 18 (10 weeks).
Where: Dred Scott Playfield, 10820 Blmgtn. Ferry Rd.
Cost: \$190 Recreation Leagues; \$250 Refereed Leagues.
Deadline: May 6.

DAYTIME
ENJOY VOLLEYBALL AT THE BLOOMINGTON National Guard Training Center, 3300 W. 98th St. Teams are formed each week.
When: All year, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Cost: \$1.25 per session.



BEGINNER CANOE AND KAYAK LESSONS
ENJOY A COMFORTABLE ATMOSPHERE with others who are new to canoeing and kayaking. Skilled instructors will teach terminology, basic strokes, how to be safe on the water, and most importantly, how have a great time. Gear will be provided. Classes are held at Hyland Lake Park Reserve, 10145 Bush Lake Rd. For more information, call Kate at 763-694-7725 or visit www.ThreeRiversParks.org.
Canoe lessons
When: Thursday, June 2.
Cost: \$10.
Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Kayak lessons
When: Saturday, June 4.
Cost: \$35.
Times: 9 a.m. - noon (women's class) and 1 - 4 p.m.

PREPARE FOR THE CLEANUP!

- Put out materials **no more than two days before** your scheduled pick-up.
- Set materials **at the curb before 7 a.m.** on your curbside pick-up day.
- **Trucks will go through only once** on your scheduled day. If you miss the curbside pick-up, call your trash hauler who will pick up your refuse for a fee.
- **Seniors or residents who are disabled:** Unable to handle the materials? Contact your Neighborhood Watch block captains – or call the Human Services Information Line in advance for volunteer availability, 952-563-4957 V/TTY.

SCHEDULE

Location	Regular trash day is:	Curbside pickup is Saturday:
West of Normandale	Friday	April 16
France to Normandale	Thursday	April 23
Penn to France	Wednesday	April 30
Portland to Penn	Tuesday	May 7
East of Portland	Monday	May 21

QUESTIONS?

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL RECYCLING AT 952-563-8750.

Earth Action Heroes protect the earth. Whether it's saving energy or guarding Bloomington's precious natural resources, these individuals are making a difference. Here are your neighbors in action ...



EARTH ACTION HERO

KITTY, THE ORGANIZER

KITTY TAYLOR, WHO HAS LIVED IN BLOOMINGTON NEARLY ALL OF HER LIFE, ENJOYS gardening, likes her yard to look pretty and describes herself as curious. If there's something to learn and the resources are available, she wants to know more.

"The City Council adopted a wetland treatment policy that offers incentives for residents who live next to a pond," Taylor said. "I wanted to know more about how I could abide by the policy and also make my property look good."

Determined, Taylor went to her local library, and called the Department of Natural Resources and the City of Bloomington to gather information. She organized a lakescaping seminar for residents to learn more about how to improve water quality while enhancing their property's appearance.

It was "standing room only" at the seminar held in March. Bloomington Environmental Health Specialist Robert Servian said the overwhelming majority of the 75 residents who attended were positive and supported the City's new wetland treatment policy. He also said many felt the seminar was a good education and a way to get their voices heard.

"Partnerships work best," said Servian. "We can share our knowledge with residents, but they are the ones who make it happen. Kitty is a perfect example of taking ownership of an issue and following through with it."

Taylor said she is doing what she can to make her neighborhood more beautiful not only for herself, but also for her neighbors.

"Landscaping for water quality is a benefit to everyone," she said. "It helps our property values remain high, our ponds and creeks are improved, and we have a beautiful place to live."

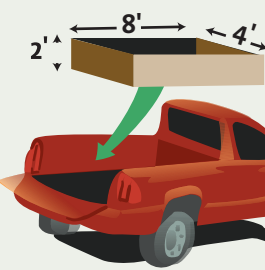
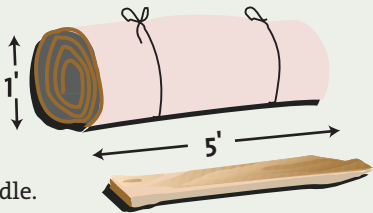
For more information on lakescaping, call Jean Buckley at 952-563-8751.



Penn Lake Librarian Marilyn helps Kitty find information.

ACCEPTED AT THE CURB

- **General junk:** Boxed or bundled – under 100 pounds per item. No scrap metal or household trash, such as food.
- **Appliances:** Water heaters, microwaves, refrigerators, washers, dryers, stoves, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, freezers, etc. Limit TWO appliances per house. **No need to call ahead.**
- **Carpets/pads:** Rolled and securely tied. Under five feet long and one foot in diameter – larger rolls are hard to handle.
- **Larger scrap metal ONLY:** Office desks, clothesline poles, swing sets are examples of large scrap metal. Remove wood, rubber, cement - all nonmetal materials. NO cast iron tubs or items over 150 pounds. Take items that fit into an automobile to the Hennepin County Problem Facility for recycling. *See box below.*



- **Unusable furniture:** Disassemble hide-a-way sofa beds so they cannot open during handling.
- **Mattresses/box springs.**
- **Construction materials, lumber, windows and doors:** Pile limited to what fits in ONE level standard-size pickup truck. Lumber stacked and no longer than five feet. Bend nails. NO railroad ties. NO contractor materials.

- **BUNDLED brush:** Branches smaller than four inches in diameter and five feet in length. Includes buckthorn.



OPTIONS FOR ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED AT THE CURB

HENNEPIN COUNTY PROBLEM WASTE AND RECYCLING FACILITY

1400 West 96th Street, 612-348-3777

TU, TH, F 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
W 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
SA 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

NEW! Now accepting non-refillable propane/butane cylinders at no charge.

- **Hazardous waste:** Paints, motor oil, solvents and other household chemicals.

- **Tires and batteries.**

- **Electronic goods:** TVs, computers, stereos.

- **Recyclable materials:** Bottles, cans, paper.

- **Gas-powered, refrigeration appliances:** Camper/other fridges, air conditioners – call ahead, 612-348-5832.

- **Small scrap metal** that fit into a car trunk.

These facilities may charge a fee for disposal.



BURNSVILLE LANDFILL

952-890-3248

- Concrete/bricks.
- Porcelain: Tubs, sinks.
- Shingles (No asbestos).

NSP COMPOSTING

Burnsville, 952-736-1915

- Leaves, grass clippings, sod.
- Stumps, logs.

WETLAND VEGETATION TREATMENT POLICY

THE CITY COUNCIL ADOPTED A NEW POLICY FOR chemical treatment to control algae and aquatic vegetation in ponds. Residents owning property next to a pond are encouraged to help limit the growth of aquatic vegetation by establishing and maintaining a native vegetative buffer zone and keeping grass clippings and leaves away from the waterbody, street or storm drain. If more than half of the property owners surrounding a wetland commit to mitigation on their lots, the City will share the costs of aquatic vegetation treatment. When all of the property owners commit to mitigation on their lots, the City will pay the total cost of treatment. For more information, call 952-563-8952. To view the entire policy, visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Wetland policy.





CITYWIDE GARAGE SALES

ATTEND THE SALES OR HOLD YOUR OWN

YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT TREASURE you'll find at this three-day event sponsored by Human Services. The 6th Annual Citywide Garage Sale will be held **Thursday - Saturday, June 2, 3 and 4**. Registration is \$20 (\$15 without a yard sign) and includes a yard sign, advertising and individual listing in the official registry of sale addresses. Deadline is May 18.

Purchase your official garage sale list for \$2, beginning May 31 at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road or at Creekside. Lists are also available on the City's Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Garage sale. Proceeds benefit the Senior Program.



What do all parents desire for their kids? Health, happiness, opportunity.

Parents can support each other by not providing alcohol to minors. Obey the law. Encourage other parents to do the same.

TOGETHER WE STAND

UNDERAGE DRINKING INCREASES during prom, graduation parties and summer celebrations. Parents, community leaders and other supportive adults play an important role in reducing underage drinking.

- The strongest predictor of kids not using alcohol, marijuana and other drugs is the belief that their parents will be upset if they do.
- New research shows heavy drinking in the teen years can cause long-lasting harm to thinking abilities.
- It is illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to possess or consume alcohol.

For information, call Bloomington Public Health at 952-563-8900 or visit www.tricitypartners.org.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

KITE DAY 2005

CELEBRATING CHILDREN'S DAY IN JAPAN

IN HONOR OF CHILDREN'S DAY, A JAPANESE NATIONAL HOLIDAY that celebrates the health and happiness of all children, the Bloomington Sister City Organization and the City of Bloomington present Kite Day 2005. Bring your own kite; make one or buy one on site. This free event will be held at Valley View Playfields, 90th Street and Portland Avenue, on **Saturday, May 7, 1 p.m.**



work. For more information, call 952-563-8737; 952-563-8740 TTY or e-mail kstone@ci.bloomington.mn.us.

ARE YOU UP FOR A CHALLENGE?

HELP REDUCE TRAFFIC IN YOUR AREA

IT'S EASY AND ECONOMICAL TO HELP REDUCE TRAFFIC IN YOUR AREA. SIT BACK AND relax by taking the bus or light rail to work. Exercise your mind and body by riding a bicycle or walking to your job. Cut your commuting costs in half by carpooling. The Commuter Challenge encourages individuals to commute to work by using alternatives to driving alone during May or June.

The Commuter Challenge can increase morale, motivate employees to do something positive for themselves and the environment, and is just plain fun. Participants are also eligible to win prizes. In 2004, 234 metropolitan-area companies took the pledge. To learn how you can participate as an individual or a company, call Melissa Madison at 612-749-4494 or e-mail Melissa@494corridor.org. The 494 Commuter Services works with Metro Commuter Services and other commuting solution partners.



COULD YOUR HOME USE A LITTLE TLC?

APPLY FOR A PAINT-A-THON MAKEOVER

SENIOR CITIZENS AND THOSE WITH DISABILITIES WHOSE homes are in need of a fresh coat of paint are encouraged to apply for the 2005 Metro Paint-A-Thon held **August 6 - 7**. Homeowners must meet income guidelines. Homes are inspected and ranked in terms of need. Application deadline is May 13.

For more information, contact Julie Kinkaid at 612-721-8687, extension 321, or e-mail jkinkaid@gmcc.org. Applications can also be found at www.gmcc.org/paint-a-thon, homeowner application.

Want to help? Paint-A-Thon is seeking dedicated team leaders and volunteer teams with a heart for helping others. Call to volunteer your time to your neighbor.



ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS FOR YOU

LOCATED AT 9801 PENN AVENUE South, **Creekside Community Center** houses the Human Services' Senior Program. For information on activities, call the Information Line at 952-563-4957 V/TTY.

CELEBRATE SPRING

COME TO A TEA PARTY

Invite your children, grandchildren, friends and neighbors to a program featuring stories that celebrate spring on **Wednesday, April 6, 9:30 a.m.**, at Creekside. Tea, juice and refreshments will be served. Human Services and the Oxboro Library sponsor this free event. To register, call the Information Line.

GET PHYSICAL

FITNESS PROGRAMS

Stay healthy and active with a wide variety of fitness and wellness programs including Tuesday/Thursday Exercise, 50+ Fitness, Tai Chi, Pilates, Summer Bocce Ball and the Born Again Jocks.



MAY HIKING

The Spring Hiking Club meets Tuesday mornings in May for hikes at a variety of Twin Cities locations. A picnic lunch will follow the last hike. Cost is \$40. Space is limited. To sign up, call the Information Line.

OLDER AMERICANS' MONTH

MAY FEATURES A VARIETY OF EVENTS

The Senior Program will host a variety of events in May to celebrate Older Americans' Month. Events include:

Older Americans' Month Lunch and Party

Monday, May 9, 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Creekside Community Center

Spring Dance

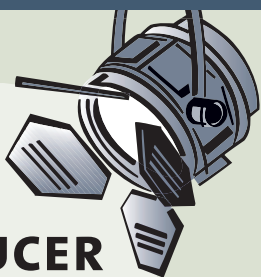
Thursday, May 19, 7 - 9 p.m.
Knights of Columbus Dance Hall,
1114 W. American Blvd.

National Senior Health/Fitness Day and Fun Walk

Wednesday, May 25, 8:45 - 9:30 a.m.
Camp Snoopy, Mall of America

Spring Music Show

Wednesday, June 1, 1 - 2:30 p.m.
Schneider Theatre,
1800 W. Old Shakopee Road



PRODUCER
SPOTLIGHT
HERE COMES THE JUDGE



TELEVISION PRODUCER JEFF MICHAELIS answers questions about “Cinema Judge” that airs on Bloomington Community Access Television (BCAT), Channel 16, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8 p.m. and Wednesdays and Fridays at 2 a.m., 8 a.m. and 2 p.m.

From the movie addict to an occasional movie viewer, "Cinema Judge" provides something for everyone. My show takes an in-depth look at movies, gives you behind-the-scenes interviews with the stars and filmmakers, and gives people an opportunity to decide if they want to see the movie. You get to observe the film through the eyes of the filmmakers.

I’ve always loved movies and BCAT provides a wonderful environment for me to express this passion.

I appreciate the continued support and input from fans of the show. I like receiving e-mails and people stopping me when I’m out, telling me that they watch the show and that they like it.

The best thing about community cable access television is that it gives people the opportunity to say what they want, to share their abilities and just to have fun. It’s a platform for everybody.

If you are a Bloomington resident who’s thinking about creating your own program, just go and do it. If it’s a topic you enjoy, that’s even better. Watching it grow right in front of you with music and effects, that’s everything. The reward is incredible.

For more information, visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: BCAT or call Amanda Taylor at 952-563-4980. For more information about “Cinema Judge,” visit www.cinemajudge.com.

REVITALIZING NEIGHBORHOODS
PROJECT BUILDS AFFORDABLE HOUSING

PROJECT FOR PRIDE IN LIVING, INC. (PPL) AND THE BLOOMINGTON Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) are working together to revitalize Bloomington's neighborhoods and build affordable single-family homes.

Seven houses are being constructed near Nicollet Avenue and 102nd Street, an area where underutilized property provided an opportunity for redevelopment. The HRA acquired and subdivided the property making the land available to PPL, a nonprofit developer, to design, construct and market the homes.

PPL Project Manager Rick Blackmon said that people have called to thank PPL and the City of Bloomington for the improvement the project is bringing to their neighborhood.

"Others want to know if we are planning future projects," Blackmon said. "It shows the demand for quality, affordable homes is very high."

The homes sold quickly. Blackmon said PPL received 53 purchase offers in 30 days.

The project, scheduled for completion this spring, is funded by the HRA, Hennepin County, the Metropolitan Council and the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency. The public funds were used to assemble the site, making the homes more affordable. For more information, call Bryan Hartman, 952-563-8943.



"The renewal project complements an already vibrant neighborhood," said HRA Project Manager Bryan Hartman. "PPL shares our vision of providing quality affordable housing in Bloomington."

BLOOMINGTON YESTERDAY

BLOOMINGTON GOLF CLUB – APRIL 1925

POST-WORLD WAR I ENTHUSIASM FOR GOLF SAW MANY COURSES BEING BUILT IN THE Twin Cities when the Bloomington Golf Club was developed in the early 1920s. The course was constructed on 160 acres of farmland leased by a group of Minneapolis Auto Club members. The clubhouse was fashioned from a barn that once housed hay and cattle on the former John Brown farm. In April 1925, a course-warming party allowed members to preview the club. The 18-hole course opened for play as the Bloomington Golf Club one month later. It became the Minnesota Valley Country Club in 1938. It's one of the few original golf courses in the Twin Cities laid out by the horse and scraper method, with the greens still preserved nearly as they were first designed.



Minnesota Valley Country Club and Minnesota Historical Society



OUTDOOR BARBEQUES
KEEP 'EM SAFE THIS SUMMER

MANY PEOPLE CELEBRATE THE ARRIVAL OF warm weather with an outdoor barbeque. If you reside in a condominium or apartment building, grilling on your balcony or deck is restricted. No charcoal grilling is allowed and LP gas grilling is very limited. For more information, call 952-563-8933. For City and state code regulations, visit the City’s Web site at ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Grills.

Safety tips

Follow these grilling tips from Fire Prevention. Keep you and your family safe this barbeque season.

- Read safety, operation and handling instructions before using the grill.
- Position your grill a safe distance from buildings, houses, garages, and shrubs or bushes.
- Never leave cooking unattended.
- Keep charcoal dry and store separately from lighter fluid.
- Use all grills outdoors. Never grill inside of homes, vehicles, tents or campers.
- Trade in older propane gas tanks for new, safer ones. A new safety standard for propane gas tanks requires that an "over-fill prevention device" be installed.



USE WATER WISELY
INSTALL A LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION SENSOR

THIS SPRING IS AN IDEAL TIME TO install a rainfall sensor on your landscape irrigation system to ensure that it complies with state law. Sensors have proven to reduce water and labor costs and may pay for themselves in only one season.

In July 2003, the State of Minnesota enacted a law requiring that automatically operated landscape irrigation systems include rainfall sensors. During periods of sufficient moisture the sensor technology must interrupt the system's operation and must be adjustable by either the resident or the professional landscape service. Irrigation sensors should be installed in unobstructed locations, usually on a building eave or a fence post, and be located close to the controller. For more information, call 952-563-8930.